



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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ARREST RELEASE

ROCKFORD, ILL. – For the past several weeks, officers and detectives from the Rockford Police Department have been investigating the following series of related incidents:

On Saturday, September 16, 2016 shortly after 10:30 p.m. patrol officers and officers from the Specialized Community Oriented Policing Enforcement team (SCOPE) responded to the Mobil gas station, 1344 E. State Street, in reference to a large fight. At that time officers learned that the incident was the result of an ongoing dispute among a group of individuals and that shots had been fired during the fight. A report was later received that a residence in the 200 block of Regan Street had been struck by the gunfire. No one was injured during the incident. Detectives from the Rockford Police Department Violent Crimes Unit investigated the incidents but received a limited amount of useful information from the victim and witnesses.

On Tuesday, September 27, 2016 shortly after 4:00 a.m. patrol officers responded to the 2200 block of 15th Avenue in reference to shots fired. At that time officers learned that an occupied multi-family residence had been struck by gunfire. No one was injured during the incident. Detectives from the Rockford Police Department Gang Unit investigated the incident, but received a limited amount of useful information from the victim and witnesses.

On Sunday, October 2, 2016 shortly before 11:00 p.m. patrol officers responded to the 2200 block of 15th Avenue in reference to shots fired. At that time officers learned that the incident was the result of an ongoing dispute. No one was injured during the incident.

On Monday, October 3, 2016 at about 12:15 a.m. officers responded to the 200 block of Regan Street in reference to another call for shots fired. At that time it was learned that a residence had again been struck by gunfire. No one was injured during the incident. A suspect vehicle was located leaving the scene. A brief vehicle pursuit ensued, but was terminated when officers lost sight of the vehicle. The suspect vehicle was later located when it crashed into a

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fence near the intersection of Oak Knolls and Crosby Street. The driver of the vehicle, Carissa Ring, was located and taken into custody without incident. In addition, two firearms were recovered from inside the suspect vehicle. Ring was later lodged in the Winnebago County Jail on the following charges:

ARRESTED: Carissa Ring 18-years-old Rockford, IL
CHARGES: Aggravated Fleeing to Elude
Failure to Reduce Speed to Avoid an Accident
Illegal Transportation of Alcohol
Leaving the Scene of a Property Damage Accident
Disobeying a Traffic Control Device
BOND: \$2,000

On Monday, October 3, 2016 at about 2:15 a.m. while officers and detectives were investigating the traffic crash at Oak Knolls and Crosby Street, another call for shots fired was received in the 200 block of Regan Street. No one was injured during that incident.

Detectives from the Rockford Police Department Violent Crimes Unit and Gang Unit conducted a follow-up investigation into all of these incidents. The results of the investigation were reviewed by the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office. As a result charges were authorized and warrants were issued for the following suspects:

ARRESTED: Austin Rice 19-years-old Rockford, IL
CHARGES: Unlawful Possession of a Weapon
BOND: \$100,000

ARRESTED: Antonio Cicero 18-years-old Rockford, IL
CHARGES: Unlawful Possession of a Weapon
BOND: \$100,000

Both Rice and Cicero were taken into custody this afternoon at approximately 3:00 p.m. on the warrants. Photos of Rice and Cicero are attached. A photo of Ring is not available at this time. No further information is available at this time.

Anyone with information regarding these incidents is asked to contact the Rockford Police Department Investigations Bureau at 779-500-6551 or Crime Stoppers 815-963-7867.

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